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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/982,853	10/22/2001	Avraham Shekalim	2472/2	7675

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EXAMINER

KONTOS, LINA R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3763

DATE MAILED: 02/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/982,853

Applicant(s)

SHEKALIM, AVRAHAM

Examiner

Lina Kontos

Art Unit

3763

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6,7 and 10-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-5,8,9,17-21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10/22/2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other:

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Drawings

1.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: "connection extensions 38", "housing pieces 40" and "end region 72". A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to as it contains a typographical error in the first line: the phrase "an accurate" is unnecessarily repeated. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

3.

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Page 18, lines 18-19 – "Figure 4" should be changed to --Figure 6--

Page 18, line 21 – "Figure 6" should be changed to --Figure 7--

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4.

Claims 1,2,6,7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Singh et al.

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Singh et al. teaches an infiltration indicator for an infusion system comprising a long rigid duct (column 2, line 20) with holes (column 2, line 22) which joins to the tubing of the infusion system (column 2, lines 37-39). Surround the duct is a closely fitting elastomeric tube (column 2, lines 24-25). When infiltration occurs, fluid flowing through the duct seeps out the holes, expanding the elastomeric tube (column 2, lines 30-32), and changing the status of electrical contacts, thus triggering an alarm (column 2, lines 57-59 and column 3, lines 16-23).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.

Claims 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Singh et al. in view of Atkins et al.

Singh et al., as described above, teaches a infiltration indicator for use with an infusion pump system.

Atkins teaches a method for detecting fluid infiltration during the administration of intravenous fluids comprising sensors and an alarm system wherein the entirety of the system can be powered by battery (column 5, line 50). Tissue infiltration is indicated by the sounding of an alarm, or a visible light (column 5, lines 31-34).

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It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art of the time of the invention to make the system powered by battery in order to allow to system when in use with an infusion pump to be mobile. Furthermore, it would have been obvious for the alarm of Singh's invention to provide either a visual or audible signal to alert to patient or attending staff to an instance of infiltration.

6.

Claims 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Singh in view of Olson.

Singh et al., as described above, teaches a infiltration indicator for use with an infusion pump system. Additionally, he further discloses that when the pressure exceeds a predetermined level, that elastomeric tubing is inflated, causing an alarm to be triggered. However, the amount of pressure that causes the elastomeric tubing to expand is variable dependent on the material and thickness of the tubing used.

Olson teaches an infusion pump apparatus comprising a fluid storage bottle (column 2, line 61), a flow control valve (column 3, line 50) and an indicator light to warn of overpressure (column 5-6, lines 68-1).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate to incorporate Singh's invention into an infusion pump system employing the use of a flow control valve in order to prevent backflow.

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Allowable Subject Matter

7.

Claims 3-5,8,9,17-21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lina Kontos whose telephone number is (703) 306-4207. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Casler can be reached on (703) 308-3552. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9302 for regular communications and (703) 872-9303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

LRK
January 29, 2003


BRIAN L. CASLER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700